[28th February 1956

Admissions in the General Hospital, Madras

* 3090 [a] *Q.*—Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP (on behalf of Dr. K. B. Menon): Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that an Ear, Nose and Throat patient after being admitted by the Resident Medical Officer of the General Hospital, Madras, on the 13th or 14th July 1955 and after receiving hospital dues, was refused to be taken in by the doctor-in-charge of Ward No. 3; and

(*b*) if so, why?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY: (*a*) & (*b*) A patient was sent for admission on the 14th July 1955 in the general ward of the Government General Hospital, Madras, by the Resident Medical Officer for want of a bed in " C " class ward for which he had applied. The Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, under whom the patient was admitted, sent him away as his case was not an urgent one and as the general ward was overcrowded with patients. He was instructed to obtain admission in a " C " class ward in the ordinary course.

Unserviceable radiological equipment in State Hospitals

* 3094 [a] *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN (on behalf of Sri M. Kalyanasundaram): Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the procedure followed in condemning as unserviceable the radiological equipment belonging to the several hospitals in the State;

(*b*) how these condemned articles are disposed of; and

(*c*) the amount realised by the sale of such unserviceable articles during the years 1953–54 and 1954–55?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY: (*a*) When a radiological equipment in a hospital goes out of order or is found unserviceable, the Superintendent of the Hospital arranges for its inspection by the Chief Radiographer attached to the Barnard Institute of Radiology, Government General Hospital, Madras. If the Chief Radiographer finds the equipment beyond repair, it is placed before the Condemnation Board of the Hospital concerned and the Board condemns the equipment if its cost is below Rs. 500 or recommends to the Director of Medical Services for its condemnation if its cost exceeds that figure.

(*b*) Such of those articles which are likely to fetch some money, if sold, are auctioned along with other unserviceable articles after giving due publicity, and the other worthless articles are destroyed in the presence of the Condemnation Board.

[a] Questions postponed from the list for 30th January 1956.

28th February 1956]

(c) A sum of Rs. 2,857–3–0 was realized in 1953–54 and Rs. 731–8–3 in 1954–55. The amounts include the proceeds of some other items of unserviceable articles which were sold in auction in lots along with the condemned radiological equipment.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Sir, have the Government received any representation or complaint or report with regard to the manner of disposal of the condemned articles?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : Any particular instance?

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI : May I know the original value of these articles which were sold for about Rs. 700 and Rs. 2,000?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : I said that radiological equipment and other items of unserviceable articles are put in one lump together and sold in auction.

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI : What was the original value, that is the cost price and age of the articles? For, that would give an indication as to how the condemnation is being done.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : I have no information here, Sir.

Smallpox in Balussery Panchayat area

* 3097[a] Q.—SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the number of deaths due to small-pox from 1st June to 31st August 1955 in Panangad and Kinalur villages in Balussery Panchayat area, Kurumbranad taluk?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : There were two and five deaths due to smallpox from 1st June to 31st August 1955 in Panangad and Kinalur villages respectively.

SRI C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP : Are Government aware that smallpox was prevalent in area adjoining the Balussery, in Quilandy firka, Kurumbranad taluk and what were the steps on hand to prevent the disease?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : The hon. Member is asking the question with regard to some other place and I cannot give that information.

SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV : How many persons were affected by this disease during this period? Are Government aware that because the Health Staff had not taken sufficient care at the beginning this disease spread widely?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : The Health Staff generally take all necessary measures wherever an epidemic appears and in this case also they have taken all the required steps.

---

[a] Questions postponed from the list for 30th January 1956.